

Meeting with [] 15 August 1968

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[] stated that a librarian of some stature will be appointed by the White House and will be a cleared person at the highest levels who will be custodian for materials in all wings of the library. However, LBJ will be the actual administrator of the library; it is probable that he will give access to all materials to whomever he wishes. Such persons would of course probably be cordial to the administration but there is no guarantee it would be someone cordial to CIA.

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[] stated that he has already extracted most of his own very sensitive files from his office at the White House and has brought them back to CIA where they are being kept in [] office.

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White House papers are kept in a vaulted room with several safes. Everything that goes to the President from anyone, having to do with the international field, goes through Walt Rostow and then to the vault. (This does not include some private communications to the President, such as material on personalities, etc., which do not go through Rostow. This has been done since the beginning of the Johnson tenure. The whole vault will go lock, stock and barrel to Austin and nothing will be left for the next administration. The only way of retrieving anything from the vault material now is to have a specific document with subject and date to refer to and a request from the DCI or [] for it. Normally, these documents would be returned to the vault but a limited number of papers could be withdrawn one by one and not returned. This could only be done in a few cases, however.

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[] suggested that the person who could best brief on what actually is presently in the vault would be Art McCafferty who is head of the White House Situation Room. He distributes the incoming mail and knows what type of material goes to the President on a routine basis and then eventually to the vault. He is on leave until 29 August but [] offered to brief McCafferty on the type of information [] would like to get, and arrange a meeting upon McCafferty's return.

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There are two possibilities where leakage might occur from papers in Austin which cannot be prevented: (1) estimates of military situation papers, prepared by other than CIA but which have CIA attachments; and (2) [] informal notes to Rostow or Bundy on specific subjects (such as [] were often the basis of memos to the President and these might well be in the central vault.

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Probably the greatest amount of sensitive material in one single place would be found in the files of the Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. [] did not know what arrangements have been made for inclusion of these papers in the library but it seemed to him that the Board would probably have to keep them. [] agreed to take this up with John Bross who might check with Pat Coyne.

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